

**AGENDA
MAINE STATE HARNESS RACING COMMISSION
MEETING**

February 27, 2020

Gambling Control Board Conference Room

Department of Public Safety

45 Commerce Drive, Augusta, Maine

Starting Time 9:00 a.m.

1. **Call the Meeting to Order and Introductions:** Michael Timmons, Chair
2. **Review and Approval of Minutes**
Review and Approval of Decision and Orders
3. **Adjudicatory Hearings:**
 - a. **RE: Jamie Gerard, Complaint Number 2019 MSHRC 04.** Mr. Gerard is alleged to have violated MSHRC Rules Chapter 7 and 11. Mr. Gerard is the trainer of record for the horse, “Ima Tragedy N”. A blood sample obtained from Ima Tragedy N following the Second Qualifier at Scarborough Downs on June 16, 2019 showed an elevated level of Dexamethasone.
 - b. **RE: Kim Ireland, Complaint Number 2019 MSHRC 09.** Mr. Ireland is alleged to have violated MSHRC Rules Chapter 7 and 11. Mr. Ireland is the trainer of record for the horse, “Saratoga Liz”. A blood sample obtained from Saratoga Liz following the Third Race at Farmington Fair on September 17, 2019 showed an elevated level of Acepromazine.
 - c. **RE: Dolores Basilone, Complaint Number 2019 MSHRC 12.** Ms. Basilone is alleged to have violated MSHRC Rules Chapter 7 and 11. Ms. Basilone is the trainer of record for the horse, “For Kevin’s Sake”. A blood sample obtained from For Kevin’s Sake prior to the Fourth Race at Scarborough Downs on November 16, 2019 showed an elevated level of Total Carbon Dioxide.
4. **Approval of the 2020 Sire Stakes Schedule.** CMR 01-017, Chapter 9, Section 1.3 requires the Commission to approve the annual sire stakes schedule. The Sire Stakes Advisory Committee has developed a proposed 2020 schedule. The Commission will review the proposed schedule and determine whether to approve it or amend it.
5. **Request to Provide Financial Support to Maine’s Pari-mutuel Fairs.** The costs of hosting a harness racing meet have risen steadily over the decades while the revenues have dropped precipitously since the advent of casinos in Maine. As a result, Maine’s agricultural fairs are finding the economics of continuing harness racing challenging, and in some cases impractical. At the same time, Maine’s agricultural fairs provide geographically diverse exposure of the sport, coupled with a loyal fan base and venues steeped in history and tradition. In addition, marketing research demonstrates that most Mainer’s who are familiar with harness racing first encountered the sport at a fair. In 2019, the Commission approved \$2,000/race day in financial support for fairs. The staff is requesting that the Commission continuing the support to Maine’s pari-mutuel fairs for 2020.

6. **Update on the Department's Investigation Relative to Racing Facility Complaints.**
The Department will provide an update on its efforts to investigate concerns about the condition of Maine's racing facilities.
7. **Overview/Update on Prohibited Substance Testing.** Miles Greenleaf will give an overview/update of the prohibited substance testing results.
8. **Other Business**
9. **Public Comment**
10. **Schedule of Future Meetings:**
March 26, 2020
April 24, 2020
11. **Adjourn**